

*Strong States, Strong Nation*



Federal Update on Human Services  
Programs and Funding:

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 NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

# Overview:



- During the 115<sup>th</sup> Congressional Session there have been several human services bills introduced.
- Topics include: foster care, child health and care, home visiting, foster and homeless youth, financial independence for families, and child trauma and care.

# Federal Bills Introduced:



- There was an re-introduction of the Family First Services Act, but no significant movement at this time.
- Foster Youth and Child Welfare Bills pull out pieces of Family First Act into separate bills.

# Federal Bills Introduced:



- ❑ **Child Care and Child Health Bills:**
- ❑ Children First Act
- ❑ Health to Hallways Act
- ❑ Home Visiting Program Funding Renewal
- ❑ Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act
- ❑ Childhood Nutrition Improvement Act

# Federal Bills Introduced:



- ❑ **Childhood Trauma and Care Related Bills:**
- ❑ Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act
- ❑ Alleviating Adverse Childhood Experiences
- ❑ Caring Start Act

# Federal Bills Introduced:



- ❑ **Financial Independence and Mobility Bills:**
- ❑ Welfare Reform and Upward Mobility Act
- ❑ Two-Generation Economic Empowerment Act
- ❑ Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act

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# Federal Updates:

- ❑ **Final Rule Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA):**
- ❑ Rule Implements the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) which Congress enacted in 1971.
- ❑ Incorporates child-welfare best practices and promotes uniformity in State ICWA proceedings no matter what party is handling the case-while taking unique circumstances into account.
- ❑ Was determined Indian children were being removed from their homes into non-Indian homes as a result of cultural biases.
- ❑ Congress determined it was in the best interest of the children to maintain Tribal connections.





# Federal Updates:

- ❑ Office of Family Assistance Announcement on TANF work requirements- rescinded 2012 policy and reinstated work requirements.
- ❑ Office of Disease Prevention added new middle childhood goal in Healthy People 2020- incorporate middle childhood stages of development as well.

# Federal Updates:



- USDA awards for Summer Electronic Benefits: Transfer to several states including rural and tribal areas, and school grant awards to 42 states and Puerto Rico reaching 5,500 schools and 2 million students for programming.



# Federal Updates:

- ❑ **Title IV-E Child Welfare Demonstration Project Requests for Extensions— Procedures and Criteria.**
- ❑ ACF recently released an memorandum (IM) which supersedes a previous order addressing extensions of child welfare waiver demonstrations. This is to alert agencies on updated and streamlined procedures HHS will follow in considering requests to extend approved child welfare waiver demonstration projects.
- ❑ Any extension granted will end by no later than September 30, 2019. The due date for any Title IV-E agency seeking an extension is that they must apply no later than 90 days (one fiscal quarter) before the demonstration's expiration date.
- ❑ There are documents to assist states in developing full proposals for a waiver demonstration project.



**Thank You.**

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